

NEW BRIDGES

An update from Matt & Hannah Bridges

A Note from Hannah:

Hi! I'm excited to start helping write newsletters for all the people who support Matt and I. I wanted to share with you a little bit about how I ended up in Honduras.

In May of 2015, I graduated from Harding University and moved home to Atlanta, Georgia. I was unsure of what the future held for me in terms of a career, but had never even thought about or considered mission work. That summer, I went on a mission trip with my home congregation to Santa Rosa to work with Mission UpReach and I fell in love... with the city, not with Matt (just yet.) I felt God pulling at my heart strings and through direction that could only have been from the Spirit, I ended up moving down to Honduras less than a month later to teach English at an International School in Santa Rosa. After finishing my year of teaching, I came to work with Mission UpReach and I haven't looked back since!



We're Married!

On the 19th of December, Hannah and I got married in a small ceremony in Cleveland, Georgia. We strongly believe that God has had his hand on our relationship from when she first moved down to Honduras, and we feel extremely blessed that he brought us together in such a wonderful place, to work for His kingdom together as a team.

Hannah and I get to serve the deaf here in Santa Rosa together as well as the many other exciting things we do for the mission. We're excited to see where God leads us during the rest of our time here.





Prayer Requests

There are many things that you can be praying for regarding our work in Santa Rosa:

- The new deaf school! Please keep the teachers and students in your prayers and they embark on a journey that none of them are familiar with.
- Alex, a young man who lives out at The Moses Project (one of MUR's programs that helps young men learn farming practices and the Bible) has recently returned home after finding out that his mother is pregnant and has cancer.

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Blog

<http://undeniablyanadventure.blogspot.com/>

New Deaf School in Copán

The deaf community here in Santa Rosa have enriched our lives enormously over the past year. The picture below shows us at a party they threw for us right before we returned to the US for Christmas break and our wedding.

The deaf here in Honduras are an extremely underserved and ostracized people. There are no schools to educate them, few jobs to support them, and sometimes their families don't even want to deal with them. In February, Mission UpReach will be starting the first ever deaf school in the department of Copán. The school will be called ESPERO - standing for La Escuela de los Sordos Para la Educación Regional de Occidente (The School of the Deaf for the Regional Education of the West.) *Espero* is also the Spanish word for "I hope".

This school will offer learning opportunities to the deaf here that they have never had before. We believe that this school will open more doors for us in the deaf community here in Honduras, to not only help them learn signs, mathematics, and Spanish, but more importantly, teach them about the love of Christ.



